

FISCAL NOTE

SB 1837 - HB 1900

March 31, 2003

SUMMARY OF BILL: Excludes mentally retarded or developmentally disabled persons who pose a substantial likelihood of harm or have been convicted of serious criminal conduct from current state residential zoning protections for handicapped persons.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact - To the extent that local governments change zoning laws to prohibit community placements state expenditures could increase if eligible clients must be kept in institutions rather than community settings.

Current state law classifies residential homes for the mentally retarded, mentally handicapped or disabled as single family residences for zoning purposes. Current law excludes mentally ill persons who pose a likelihood of serious harm or have been convicted of a serious crime. This bill adds the mentally retarded to this limitation. According to the Division of Mental Retardation Services if local governments initiated such limitations the ability to move persons into the community from institutions would be more difficult. Institutional care now costs an average of \$259,000 annually compared to an average of \$140,000 in a community setting.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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